

Dear Sir or Madam:

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
recent decision to
require their
stations to air an
anti-Kerry
documentary several
days before the
Presidential
election without
providing equal time
to Senator Kerry is
a striking example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

As you are aware,
Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. But when
large companies such
as Sinclair control
the airwaves, we get
more of what's good
for the bottom line
and less of what we
need for our
democracy. Instead
of something
produced at "News
Central" far away, I
believe it is far
more important that
we see real people
from our own
communities and more
substantive news
about issues that
matter.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
also show why the
license renewal
process needs to
involve more than a
returned postcard.

Sincerely,

Edward O'Brien